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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 are pending before this amendment. Claim 1 is amended by the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 2), claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the applicants' admitted prior art (AAPA).

In response, claim 1 has been amended in order to make the independent claim 1 clearly distinguished from AAPA. The support for the amendments to claim 1 is set forth at least in the specification page 7 of the application as follows:

"As shown in FIG. 3, when UE executes a handover between different cells of the same radio network controller, the route of data transmission only uses different interface ATM boards, and the data transmission management board is still the processing board that was used during the initial call setup. In order to improve the call handling capability of the radio network controller, there may be arranged a plurality of data transmission management boards within a radio network controller. However, for a certain user, when he roams among the cells dominated by the radio network controller, he always uses the same one data transmission management board. In this case, when the user executes handover between the cells of a radio network controller, only the mapping between the data transmission management board and the ATM interface board needs to be reconfigured."

Therefore, independent claim 1 includes the feature that, although a plurality of data transmission management boards are included in RNC, the user only uses one same data transmission management board (DTM) among the plurality of data transmission management boards during a user equipment (UE) handover procedure, that is to say that only one DTM is involved during a UE handover procedure.

Regarding the number of data transmission management boards involved during a user equipment (UE) handover procedure, it is recorded in the AAPA (Background of

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the Invention on page 2) as follows:

"It can be seen from FIG. 1 that, when UE executes handovers from Cell 1 to Cell 2, in the data transmission route, not only the interface ATM board is changing from ATM1 to ATM2, but the data transmission management board (DTM) has also changed, i.e. from DTM1 to DTM2. The change of the data transmission management board requires that information about UE is also transferred from DTM1 to DTM2. The task of transferring the information about UE from DTM1 to DTM2 is performed by a radio signaling management board (RSM). The information about UE will be reallocated to DTM2 through the radio signaling management board."

It can be seen that, as admitted by AAPA, the data transmission management board (DTM) is changed from DTM1 to DTM2 when UE executes handovers from Cell 1 to Cell 2. That is to say, at least two DTMs are involved during the UE handover procedure according to AAPA.

The factual determination of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires identical disclosure, either explicitly or inherently, of each element of a claimed invention in a single reference. However, it has been clearly demonstrated that the number of DTM's involved during the UE handover procedure is different between the present invention and AAPA.

Thus, the applicants respectfully submit that the independent claim 1 is patentable over AAPA.

As to the dependent claims 2-3, the applicants respectfully submit that these claims are also allowable at least since they depend from claim 1, which is now considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons above.

In the office action (page 4), claim 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over AAPA in view of U.S. App. Publ. No. 2002/0021689 (Robbins).

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The applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 is also allowable at least since it depends from claim 1, which is now considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons above.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-4 pending in this application are in condition for allowance over the cited references.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

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Respectfully submitted,

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